

**MARVEL**

FROM  
THE  
X-MEN

**STORM AND ILLYANA**

# MAGIK

**#1 IN A FOUR-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES**

60¢

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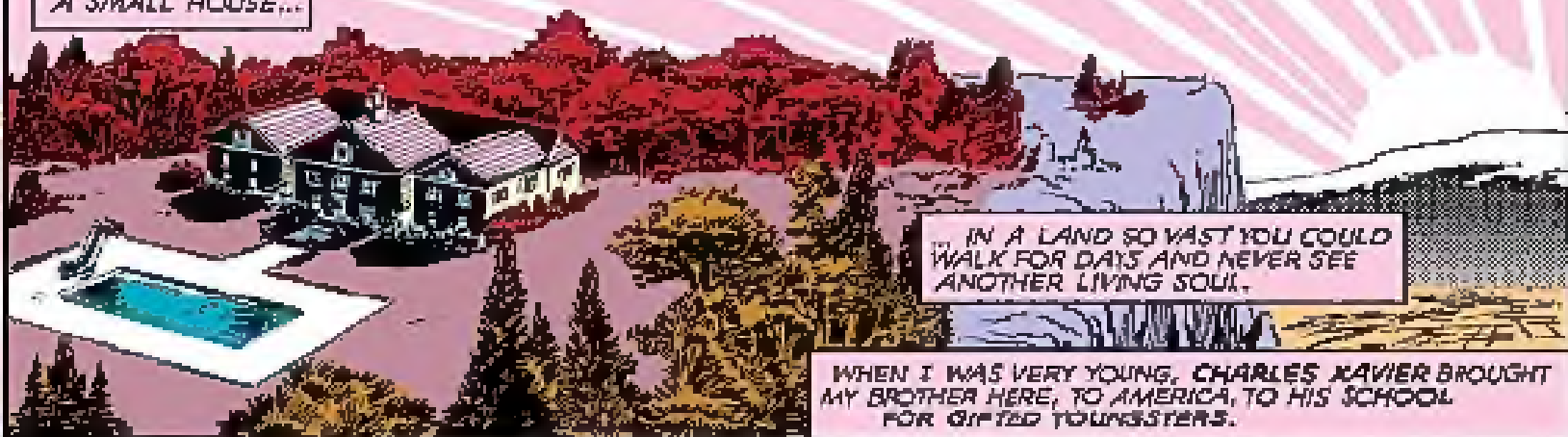
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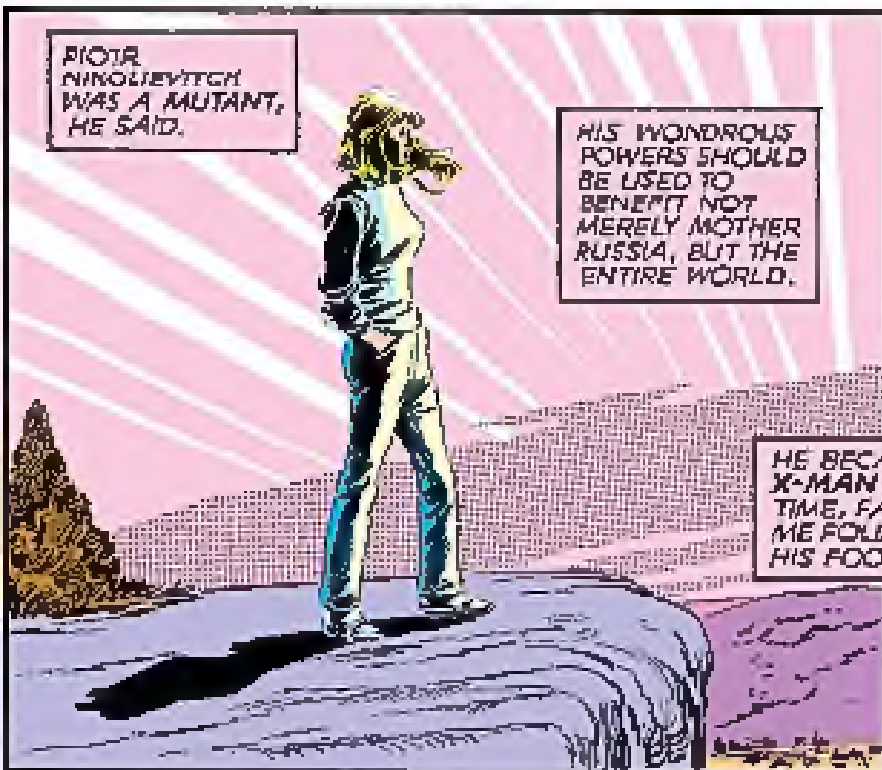
I WAS BORN IN  
A SMALL HOUSE...



IN A LAND SO VAST YOU COULD  
WALK FOR DAYS AND NEVER SEE  
ANOTHER LIVING SOUL.

WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG, CHARLES XAVIER BROUGHT  
MY BROTHER HERE, TO AMERICA, TO HIS SCHOOL  
FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS.

PIOTR  
NINOLIEVITCH  
WAS A MUTANT,  
HE SAID.

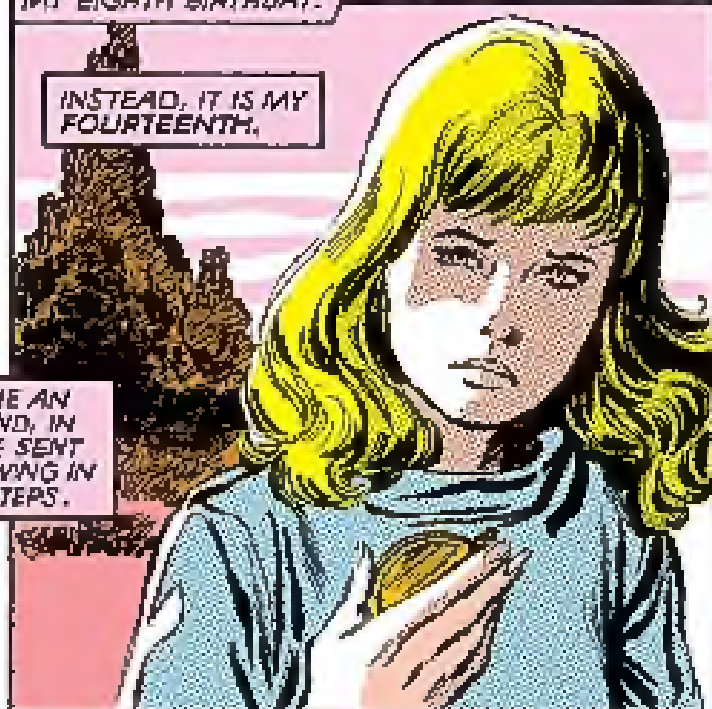


HIS WONDROUS  
POWERS SHOULD  
BE USED TO  
BENEFIT NOT  
MERELY MOTHER  
RUSSIA, BUT THE  
ENTIRE WORLD.

HE BECAME AN  
X-MAN AND, IN  
TIME, FATE SENT  
ME FOLLOWING IN  
HIS FOOTSTEPS.

HAD I REMAINED IN SIBERIA, TODAY WOULD BE  
MY EIGHTH BIRTHDAY.

INSTEAD, IT IS MY  
FOURTEENTH.



HALF MY LIFETIME  
SPENT ON EARTH...

...AND  
HALF IN  
HELL...

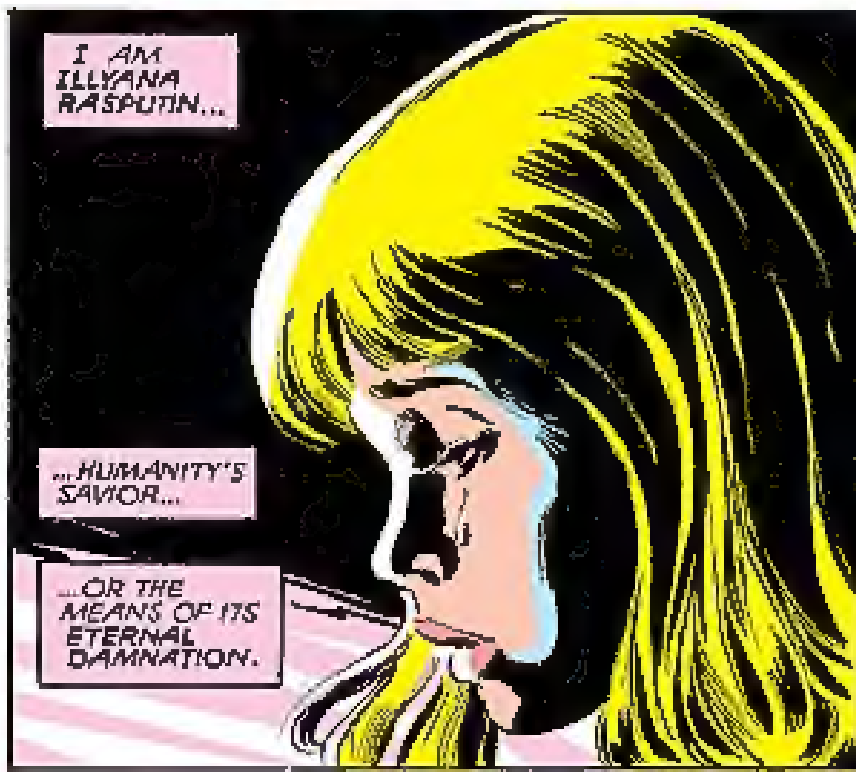


...WHERE  
I WAS  
CONSORT  
TO A  
DEVIL.

I AM  
ILLYANA  
RASPUTIN...

...HUMANITY'S  
SAVIOR...

...OR THE  
MEANS OF ITS  
ETERNAL  
DAMNATION.



# Little Girl Lost



GUYS, WILL IT HELP IF I CHANT, "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME?"

HA-FLAMIN' - HA, KIDDO.

HANG ONTO TER HATS, PEOPLE! STORM'S CASTIN' HER SPELL -- HERE WE GO!

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\*FOR A MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE EVENTS ON THESE TWO PAGES, SEE X-MEN #160 -- LOUISE.





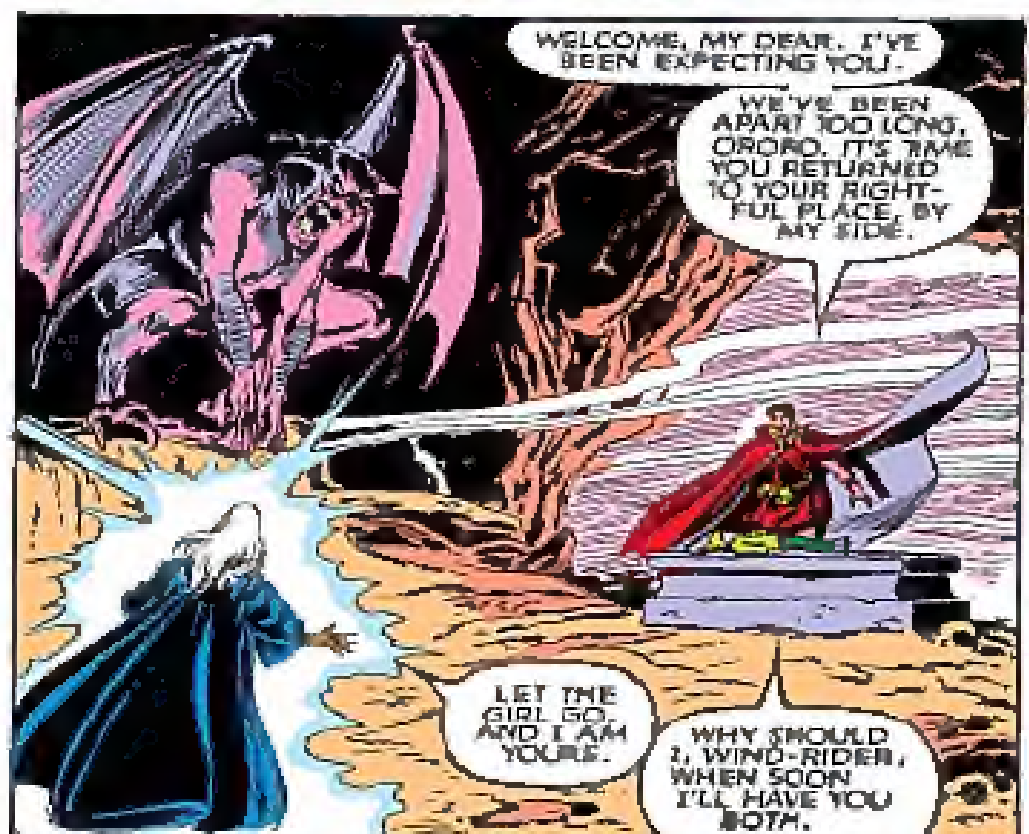
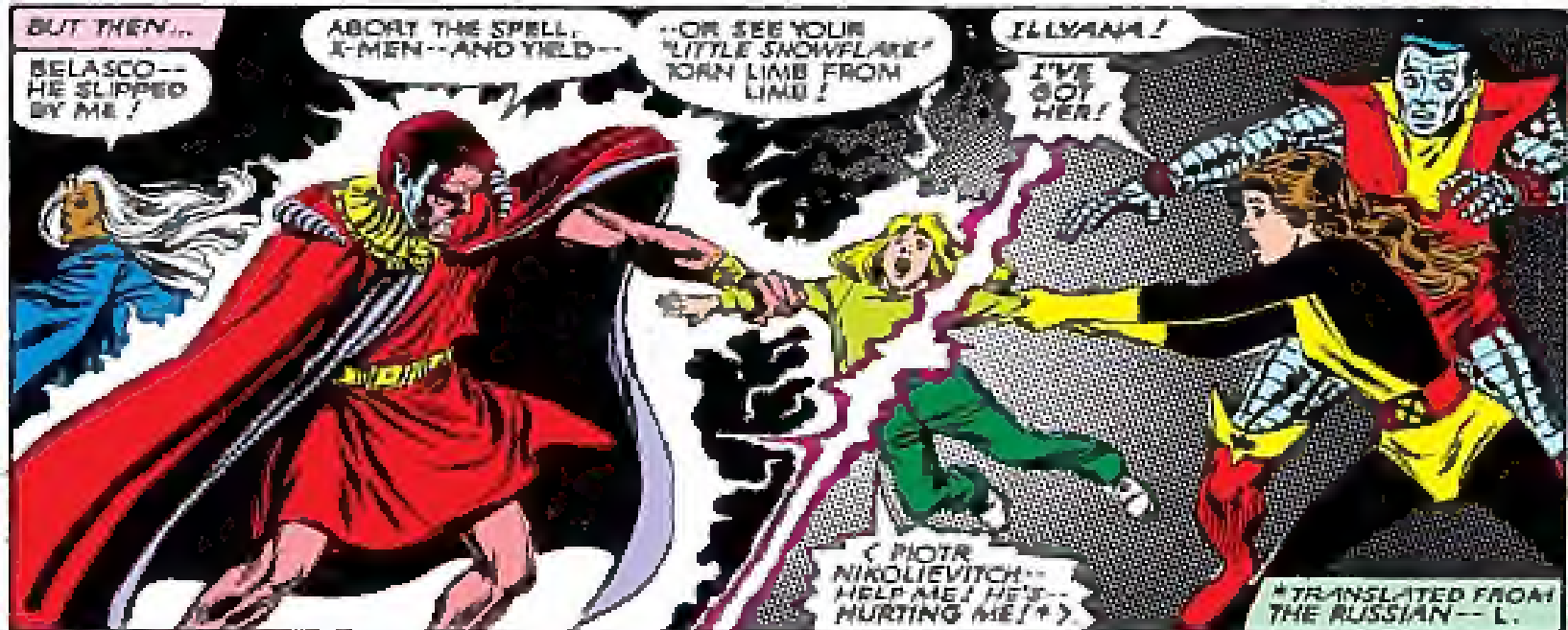
MY BROTHER'S ARMORED SKIN IS ICE-COLD TO MY TOUCH. WE'RE RUNNING FOR OUR LIVES-- THE X-MEN AND ME-- WITH A BACK OF DEMONS HOWLING AT OUR HEELS.

I'VE NEVER BEEN SO FRIGHTENED, BUT I MAKE NO SOUND-- I REFUSE TO CRY-- I DON'T WANT PIOTR TO BE ASHAMED OF ME.

A VOICE ROARS ABOVE THE REST, THAT OF THE MAN WHO BROUGHT ME HERE TO LIMBO: THE DEMON-LORD, BELASCO.

I'M CONFUSED-- THERE ARE TWO ORGORS WITH US, ONE OLD, ONE YOUNG. ONE A FORGERESS, THE OTHER-- RULER OF THE WINDS, LEADER OF THE X-MEN. THEY'RE TOTALLY DIFFERENT, YET THEY'RE THE SAME PERSON...

-- COMBINING THEIR POWERS TO PROTECT US FROM BELASCO AND AT THE SAME TIME SEND US SAFELY HOME.





SHE IS DELIGHTFULLY PURE AND UNSPOILED.

EVEN KITTY FYDE WASN'T THIS INNOCENT WHEN I FINALLY CLAIMED HER.

ILLYANA IS THE PERFECT INSTRUMENT THROUGH WHICH MY MASTERS, THE ELDER GODS, WILL EXTEND THEIR DOMINION FIRST TO EARTH AND THEN TO OUR ENTIRE UNIVERSE!



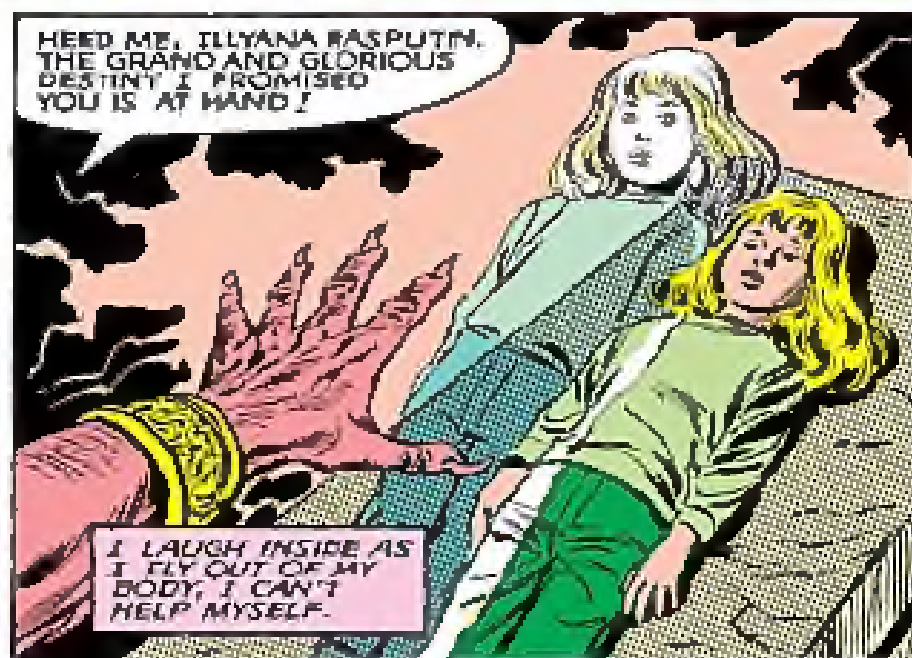
I WILL NOT ALLOW IT!

EMPTY WORDS, WOMAN.



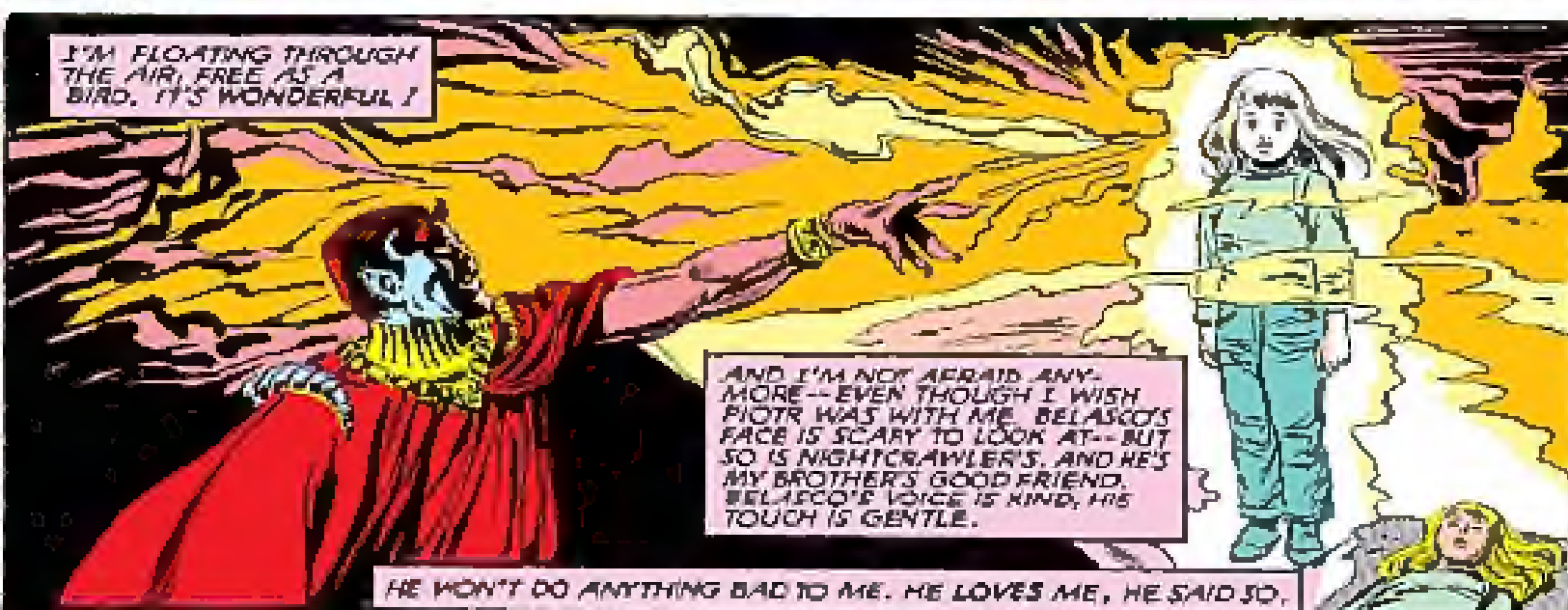
EVEN IN YOUR PRIME, YOU WERE NO MATCH FOR ME. WHAT HOPE HAVE YOU...

...NOW THAT YOU ARE OLD?



HEED ME, ILLYANA RASPUTIN. THE GRAND AND GLORIOUS DESTINY I PROMISED YOU IS AT HAND!

I LAUGH INSIDE AS I FLY OUT OF MY BODY, I CAN'T HELP MYSELF.



I'M FLOATING THROUGH THE AIR, FREE AS A BIRD. IT'S WONDERFUL!

AND I'M NOT AFRAID ANYMORE--EVEN THOUGH I WISH PIOTR WAS WITH ME. BELASCO'S FACE IS SCARY TO LOOK AT--BUT SO IS NIGHTCRAWLER'S, AND HE'S MY BROTHER'S GOOD FRIEND. BELASCO'S VOICE IS KIND, HIS TOUCH IS GENTLE.

HE WON'T DO ANYTHING BAD TO ME. HE LOVES ME, HE SAID SO.





I HEAR ORORO'S VOICE, FAR AWAY, CALLING FRANTICALLY. SHE WANTS TO SAVE ME, BUT THERE'S NO NEED. I'M IN NO DANGER.

BEHOLD THE FACE THAT IS...



AND THAT SOON SHALL BE.

I'M GROWING!



GETTING BIGGER...

...GETTING OLDER!

BUT ONLY THIS GHOST ME--

...MY REAL BODY, ON THE SLAB, DOESN'T CHANGE!



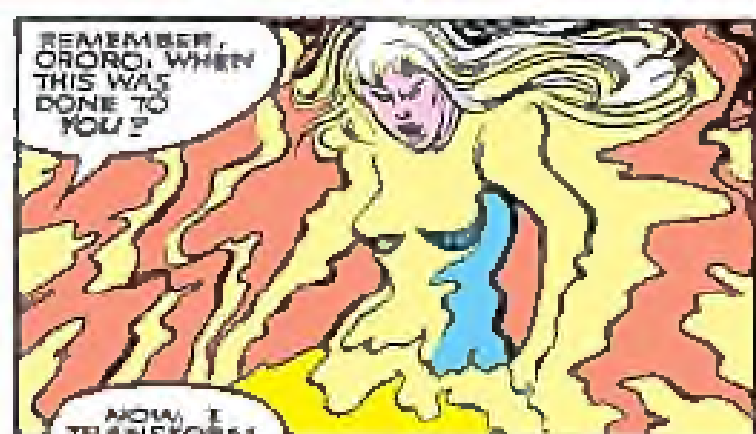
BELASCO LAUGHS.

I JOIN HIM.



THIS I RESHAPE THIS PIECE OF ILLYANA'S SOUL...

...COMPLETELY, IRREVOCABLY, IN MY OWN IMAGE.



REMEMBER, ORORO, WHEN THIS WAS DONE TO YOU?

NOW, I TRANSFORM THE SIMULACRUM OF ILLYANA...

...INTO A BALL OF ENERGY.



IS IT NOT GORGEOUS?



SHE IS BOUND TO ME--  
BODY AND SOUL--



-- AND THROUGH  
ME, TO MY DREAD  
LORDS.



FOREVER... BEHOLD THE FIRST OF  
FIVE BLOODSTONES.



ONCE  
EMPLACED,  
NO POWER  
ON EARTH  
CAN REMOVE  
THEM.



AND WHEN, AT LAST, THE  
CIRCLE IS COMPLETE, THE  
DIMENSIONAL WALLS  
WILL BURST--

-- AND THE  
ELDER GODS  
WILL COME  
FORTH!



AAAAH!!!

HOW SAD,  
WIND-RIDER,  
THAT YOU  
WON'T BE ALIVE  
TO SEE THAT  
WONDERFUL  
DAY.



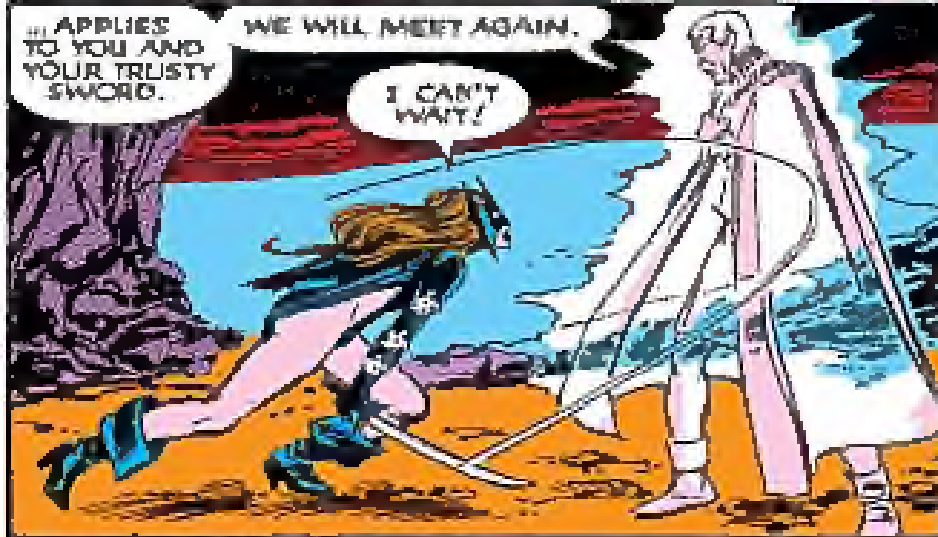
EACH... STONE MAKES  
BELASCO... INCALCULABLY  
STRONGER. IF HE'S TO  
BE STOPPED... MUST  
BE HERE... NOW...

I HAVE  
THE  
WILL...

...BUT MY BODY BETRAYS ME--  
TOO OLD.. TOO... WEAK...



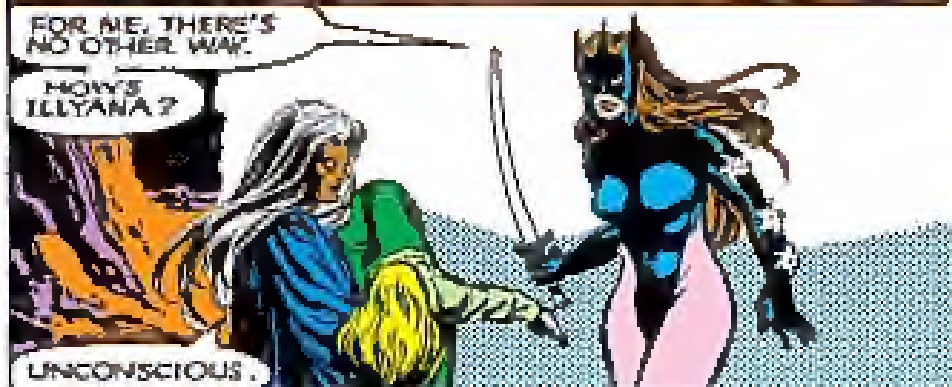




... APPLIES TO YOU AND YOUR TRUSTY SWORD.

WE WILL MEET AGAIN.

I CAN'T WAIT!



FOR ME, THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.

HOW'S ILLYANA?

UNCONSCIOUS.



THERE AIN'T NO JUSTICE, ORORO. EACH TIME I GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO DO SOME REAL DAMAGE, BELASCO PULLS HIS DISAPPEARING ACT.

HE IS A SORCERER, CAT. HE CANNOT BE FOUGHT WITH STEEL ALONE.



I'D BEST TRANSPORT US TO MY SANCTUM...

... BEFORE BELASCO RETURNS WITH RE-ENFORCEMENTS.

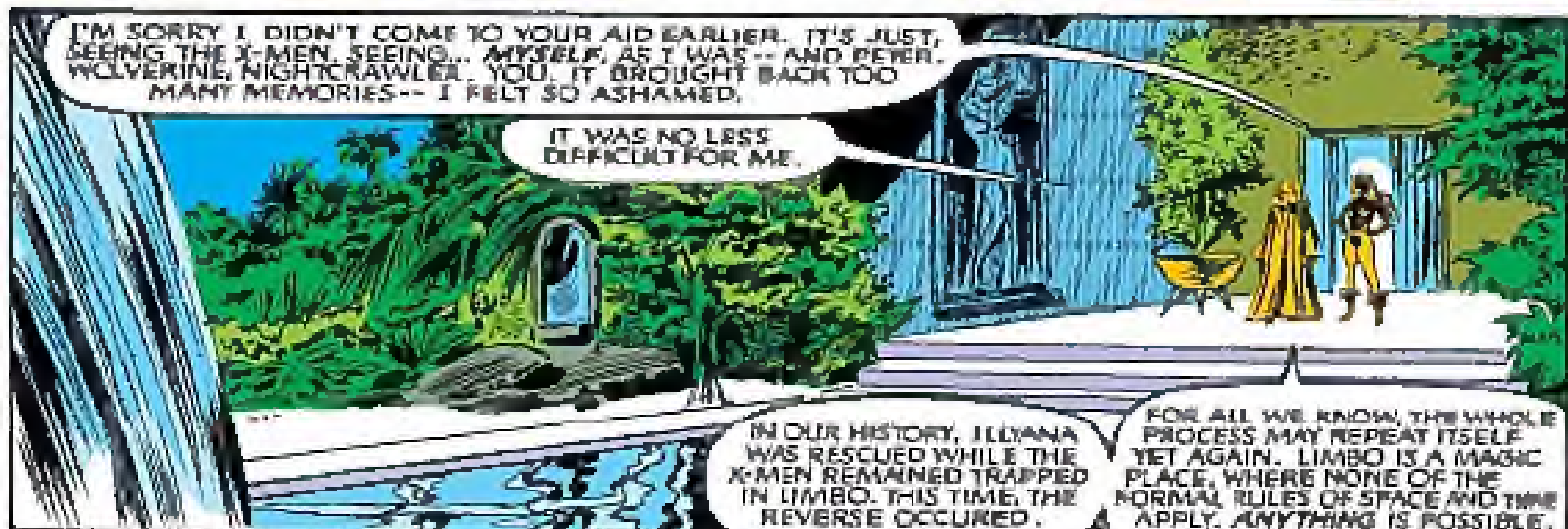


POOR LITTLE THING...

PART OF ME HATES HER.

IT'S HER FAULT WE'VE BECOME WHAT WE ARE.

DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT?



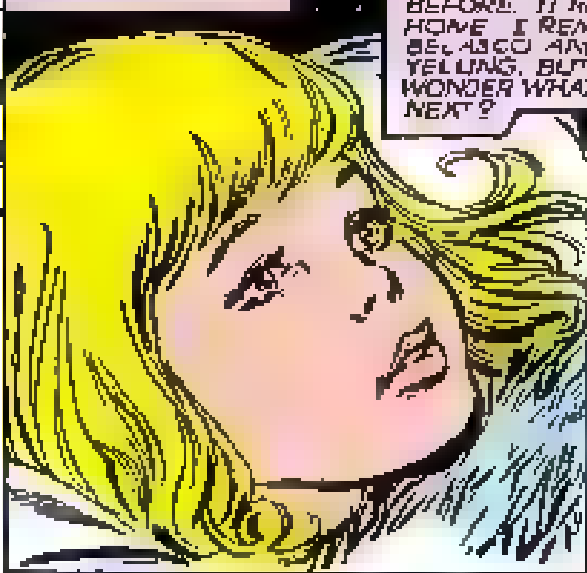
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T COME TO YOUR AID EARLIER. IT'S JUST, SEEING THE X-MEN, SEEING... MYSELF, AS I WAS-- AND PETER, WOLVERINE, NIGHTCRAWLER, YOU, IT BROUGHT BACK TOO MANY MEMORIES-- I FELT SO ASHAMED.

IT WAS NO LESS DIFFICULT FOR ME.

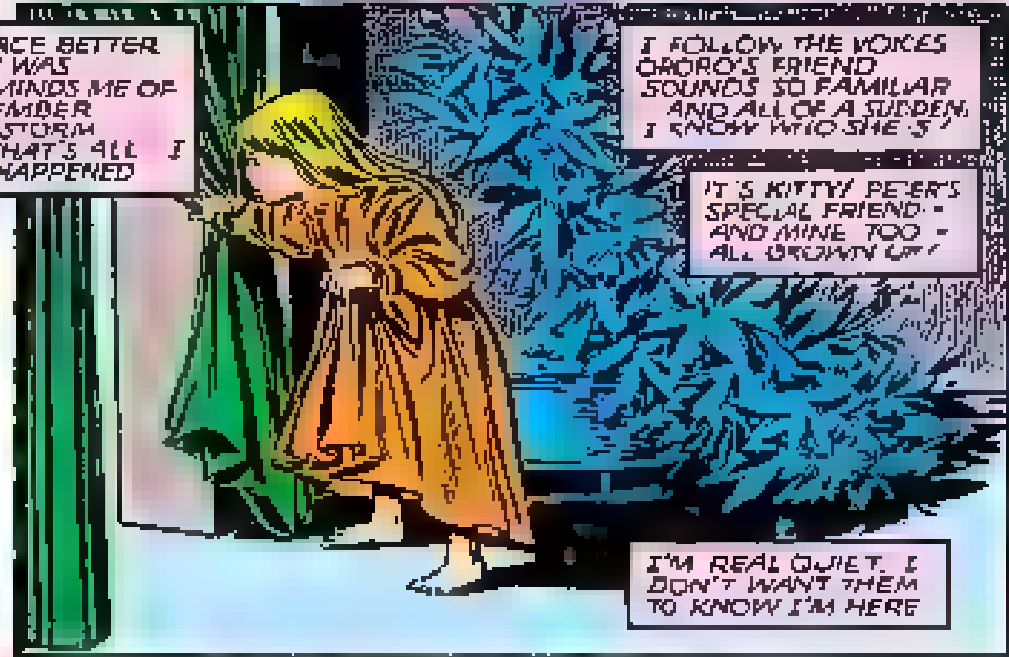
IN OUR HISTORY, ILLYANA WAS RESCUED WHILE THE X-MEN REMAINED TRAPPED IN LIMBO. THIS TIME, THE REVERSE OCCURED.

FOR ALL WE KNOW, THE WHOLE PROCESS MAY REPEAT ITSELF YET AGAIN. LIMBO IS A MAGIC PLACE, WHERE NONE OF THE NORMAL RULES OF SPACE AND TIME APPLY. ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

I'M NOT REALLY ASLEEP. I WAS JUST PRETENDING.



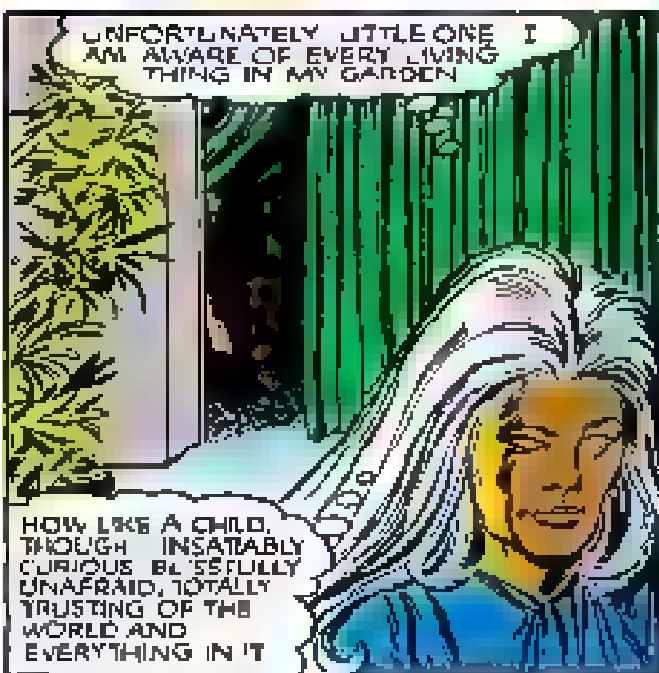
I LIKE THIS PLACE BETTER THAN WHERE I WAS BEFORE. IT REMINDS ME OF HOME. I REMEMBER BELASCO AND STORM YELLING, BUT THAT'S ALL. I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?



I FOLLOW THE VOICES ORORO'S FRIEND SOUNDS SO FAMILIAR AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, I KNOW WHO SHE IS!

IT'S KITTY! PEER'S SPECIAL FRIEND - AND MINE TOO - ALL GROWN UP!

I'M REAL QUIET. I DON'T WANT THEM TO KNOW I'M HERE.



UNFORTUNATELY, LITTLE ONE, I AM AWARE OF EVERY LIVING THING IN MY GARDEN.

YOU WILL SOON LEARN DIFFERENTLY, ILLYANA. AND IT WILL BREAK MY HEART TO HAVE TO TEACH YOU.

CAT--?



ORORO!

I FEAR MY EXERTIONS HAVE FINALLY TAKEN THEIR TOLL.

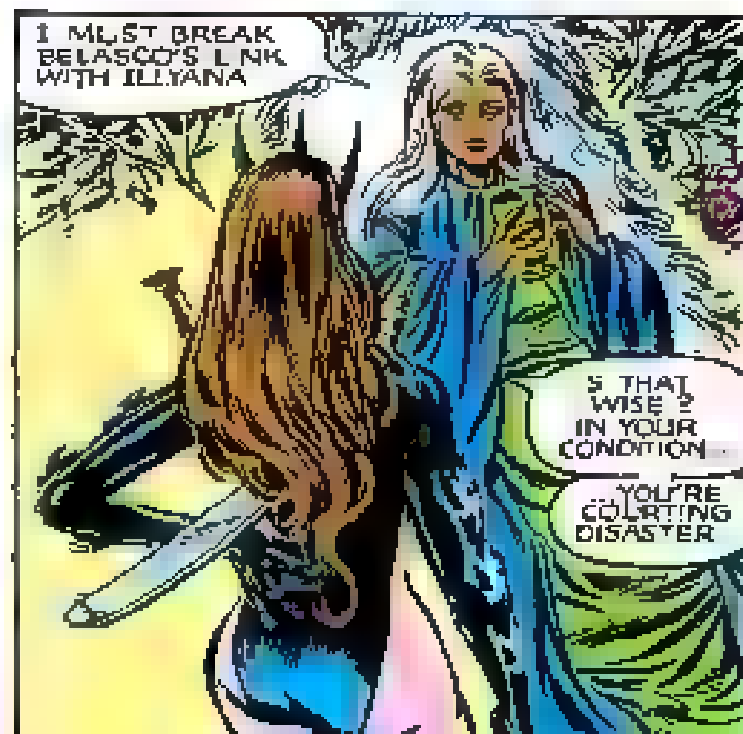


YOU'RE GETTING TOO OLD FOR THIS.

SO BELASCO SAID.

IT ISN'T FUNNY!

PERHAPS NOT, BUT LAUGHTER HELPS ME MAINTAIN MY PERSPECTIVE.



I MUST BREAK BELASCO'S LINK WITH ILLYANA.

IS THAT WISE? IN YOUR CONDITION.

YOU'RE COURTING DISASTER.



I DARE NOT  
DELAY BELASCO  
IS CORRECT TIME  
IS ON HIS SIDE  
I MAY ALREADY  
BE TOO LATE

IF SHE'S SO DANGEROUS,  
THERE'S A SIMPLER SOLUTION

I HAVE  
CONSIDERED  
IT BUT I HAVE  
TOO MUCH  
BLOOD ON MY  
HANDS ALREADY  
I WANT NO  
MORE

THEY'RE COMING  
THIS WAY

QUICK AS A FLASH, I SCAMPER BACK TO BED AND  
HIDE UNDER THE COVERS STORM FINDS ME ANYWAY

I WANT MY  
RE-THIR  
ORORO

DO NOT FRET  
SOON WITH  
LUCK

YOU SHALL BE  
BY HIS SIDE  
ONCE MORE,  
SAFE AND SOUND

BELASCO IS EVIL  
BEYOND MEASURE  
ILLYANA THE  
MEDALLION HE GAVE  
YOU GIVES HIM  
POWER OVER YOU

ARE YOU  
A WITCH?  
YOU WEREN'T  
WHEN YOU  
WERE WITH  
THE 3 MEN

I WAS  
MUCH  
YOUNGER  
THEN

IF I AM ABLE  
TO FREE YOU  
FROM BELASCO'S  
ENCHANTMENT,  
I SHALL THEN  
BE ABLE TO SEND  
YOU HOME

OH  
THANK YOU  
ORORO  
THANK  
YOU!

WILL  
YOU AND  
KITTY BE  
COMING  
WITH  
ME?!

NO!

I I'M  
SORRY,  
KITTY I  
DON'T  
MEAN TO  
MAKE YOU  
ANGRY

KITTY'S  
DEAD.  
ILLYANA!

FORGET  
HER!

THIS IS  
WHERE WE  
BE LONG  
CHILD

I AM  
BEGINNING  
MY SPELL,  
DO NOT BE  
AFRAID

I'M NOT  
I KNOW  
YOU'D  
NEVER  
HURT ME

THE LOOK IN STORM'S EYES  
REMINDS ME OF MY MOTHER  
BUT SHE'S SO SAD



HE'S FROM A PLACE WE  
FEEL THE IT A L OVER

THE THAT IN  
IS COMPLETE



AND LASHEN  
THAT I  
ANTICIPATED

I HAVE SEEN MY A TRULY SELF BECOM  
MY DEEDS IN I ONLY AM A DARK  
I HAVE BEEN IN A DATA  
SINCE I WAS BORN  
THEY WERE LOST BY THE ANTI-TECHNOLOGY

I HAD  
FOR A LONG  
SINCE I HAD  
AND I  
BEHOLD



I WAS LIKE THIS WHEN I WAS  
TOLD MY FATHER I HAD BEEN AD  
LIFE I AM NOT IN A  
CERTAIN BECAUSE I SAID

I FEEL BACK BY  
AWAKENING MY MY  
WILL NEW APPEARS

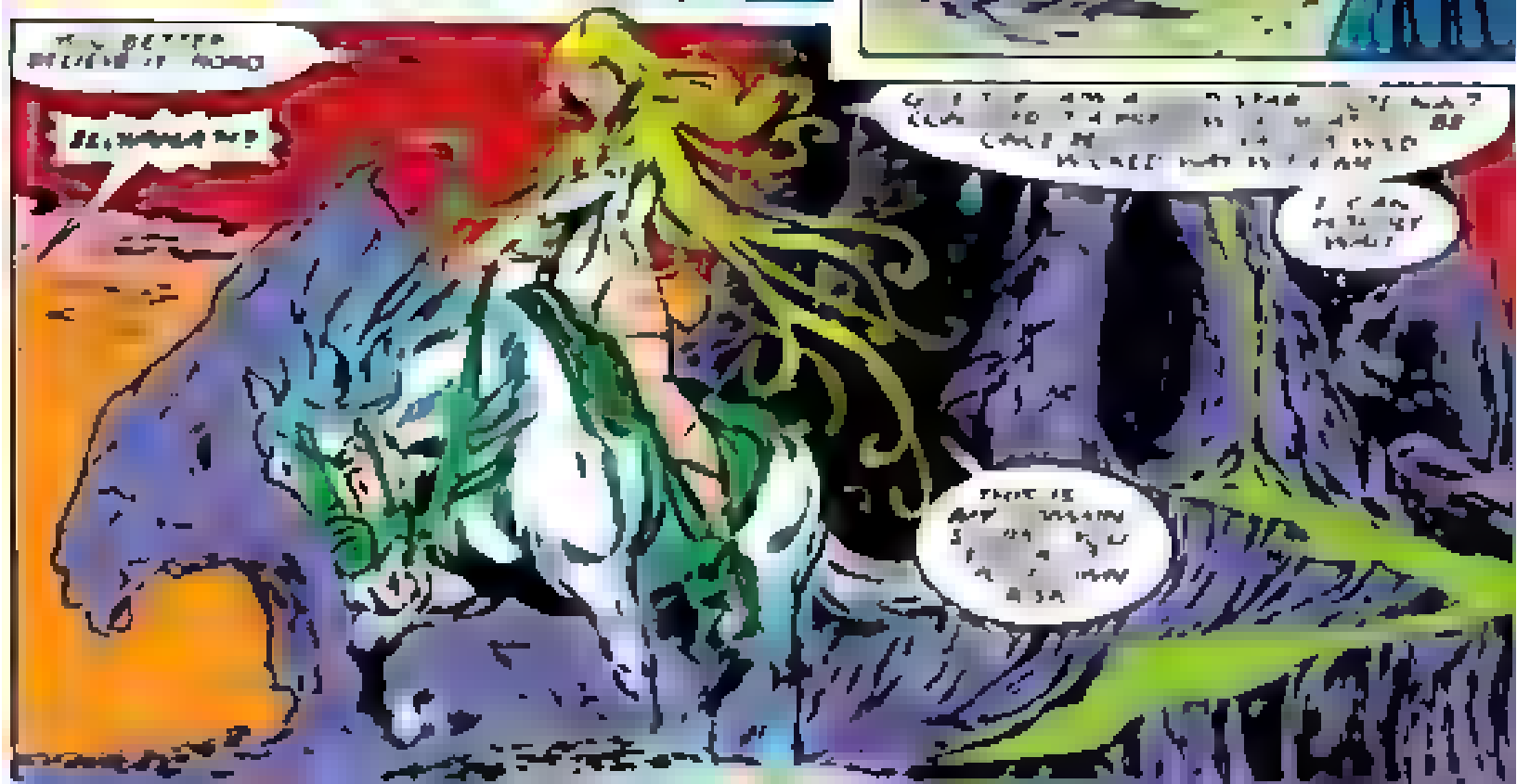


THESE ARE  
THESE ARE  
THESE ARE  
THESE ARE



THE MY  
LAST TIME  
MEREY

YOUR SEE HAVE  
I HAD  
THAT I HAD  
IN A TIME



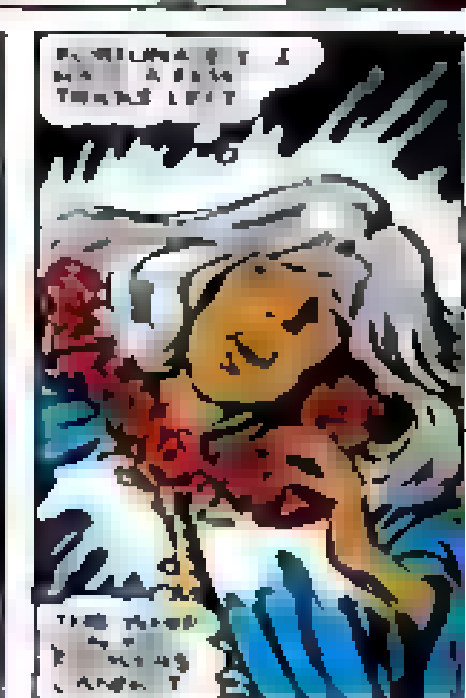
THE BETTER  
BELIEVE IT MORE

BEHOLD

GET IT FROM A MYSTIC  
LIFE TO THE END OF THE  
CANT BE  
WILL BE WITH ME

I CAN  
WAIT

THESE ARE  
THESE ARE  
THESE ARE  
THESE ARE







HOW FRAIL  
LIFE IS

A SHARPER  
DIME A LK USED  
NEAR A RYIE IN  
THE HEART SO  
ABOUT THAT  
E E IT AND SO  
EATY I CAN MUST  
YOU OARDO I  
CAN KILL YOU



BUT I'D  
RATHER NOT

WE'RE HUNDRED  
FOOT'S KA AND  
I TELL YOU BY  
BE 41 5  
EARTH NO  
MA IS WHY  
HIE YOUR  
TALK SELA



WHEN I'M 20  
BEAUTIFUL

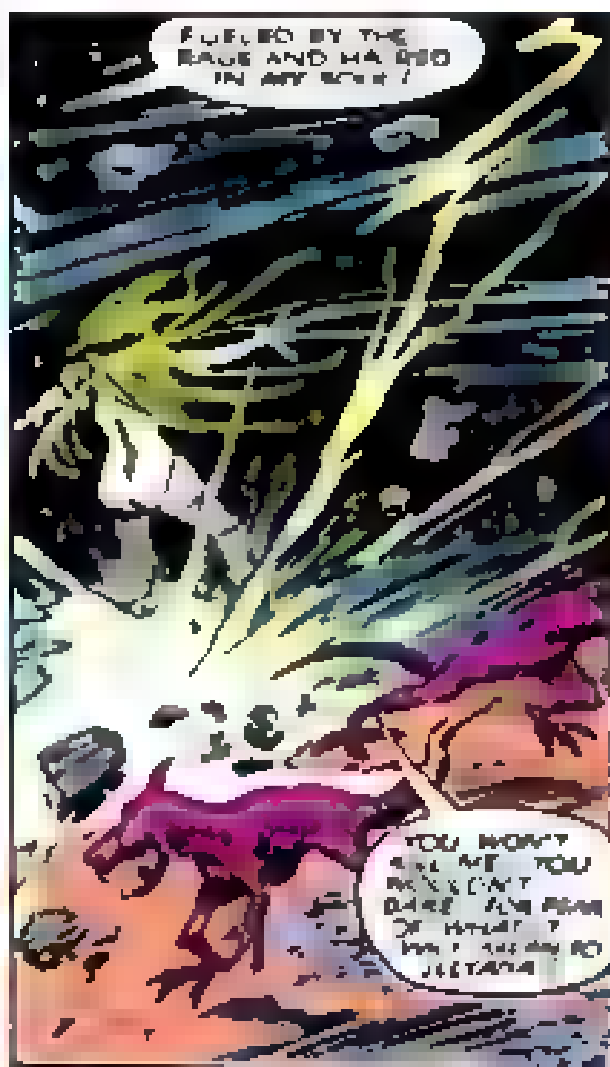
MONSTER I DEAT YOU  
AS I DENT YOUR  
MARKER?

I WAS BORN A  
MUTANT LIND  
BUT I TURNED  
TO HARK AND  
THE E BARENTS OF  
NAILRE ARE  
STILL MINE TO  
COMMAND!



A WIND!

A  
FEMPEST,  
ILLANA



FUELED BY THE  
RAGE AND HA RED  
IN MY SOX!

YOU WON'T  
KILL ME YOU  
WON'T DARE FOR FEAR  
OF WHAT I  
WILL DO NEXT



IF YOU  
BELIEVE  
THAT

YOU  
HAVE  
MUCH TO  
LEARN



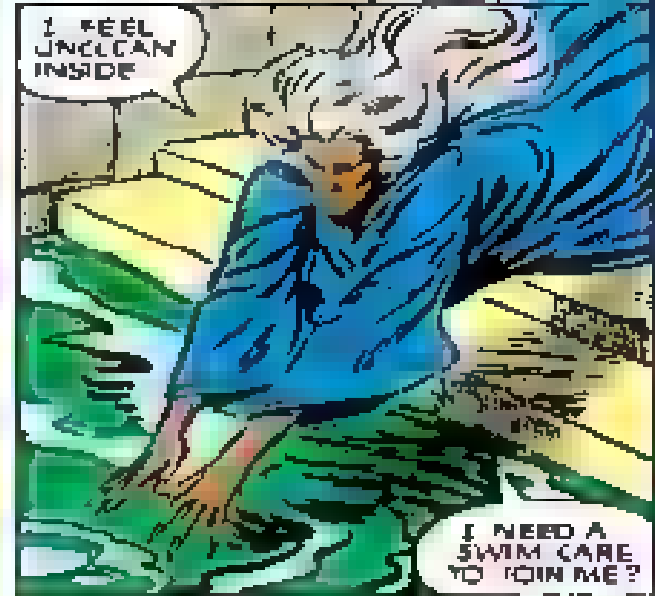
NO LUCK, AM I?

QUITE THE  
CONTRARY  
MORE THAN  
I DESERVE

A PITY THE WEATHER  
DOES NOT OBEY IN  
REALITY AS IT DOES IN  
MY IMAGINATION. MY  
WILL IS AS FIRM AS EVER  
BUT MY BODY CAN NO  
LONGER STAND THE  
PHYSICAL STRESS OF  
MANIPULATING  
SUCH ENERGIES

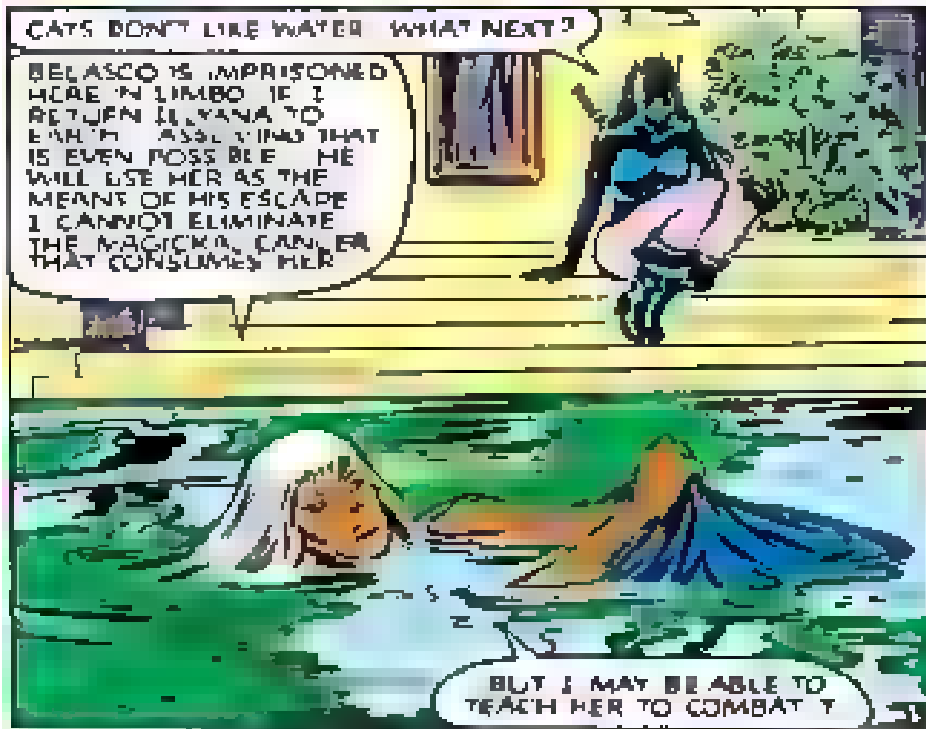
I COULD  
NOT BREAK  
THE LINK. I  
BARELY SAVED  
MYSELF

I TOLD  
YOU SO



I FEEL  
UNCLEAN  
INSIDE

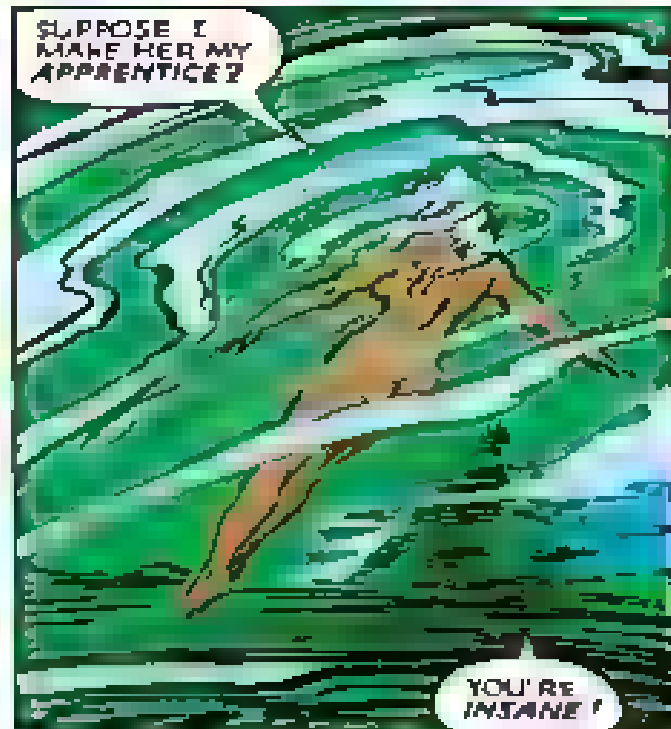
I NEED A  
SWIM CAP  
TO JOIN ME?



CATS DON'T LIKE WATER. WHAT NEXT?

BELASCO IS IMPRISONED  
HERE IN LIMBO. IF I  
RETURN IL'YANA TO  
EARTH, ASSUMING THAT  
IS EVEN POSSIBLE, HE  
WILL USE HER AS THE  
MEANS OF HIS ESCAPE.  
I CANNOT ELIMINATE  
THE MAGICKAL CANCER  
THAT CONSUMES HER

BUT I MAY BE ABLE TO  
TEACH HER TO COMBAT IT



SUPPOSE I  
MAKE HER MY  
APPRENTICE?

YOU'RE  
INSANE!



THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT  
BELASCO WANTS. THE  
MORE SHE LEARNS

THE MORE  
VALUABLE  
SHE WILL BE. THE  
EASIER TO  
CORRUPT YOU'LL  
BE DOING  
BELASCO'S WORK  
FOR HIM.



WHAT  
ALTERNATIVE  
HAVE I?



THIS!



AND ONCE THE DEED IS DONE WHAT DIFFERENCE THEN REMAINS BETWEEN US AND BELASCO?



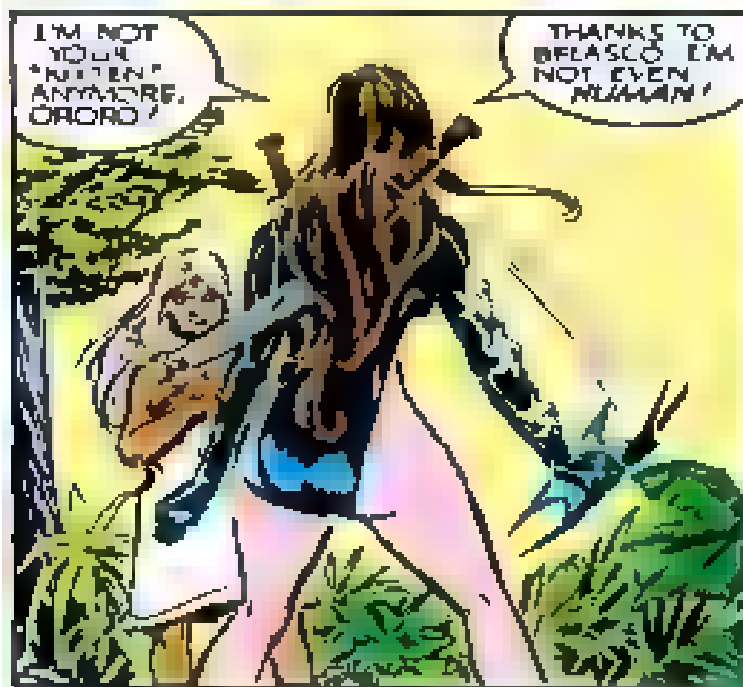
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE SO FAR APART NOW?

WHEN YOUR MIGHTY POWERS STARTED TO WANE YOU TURNED TO SORCERY YOU FOLLOWED THE SAME PATH BELASCO DID. YOU BECAME HIS APPRENTICE WHY SHOULDN'T YOU END UP AS EVIL AS HIM?



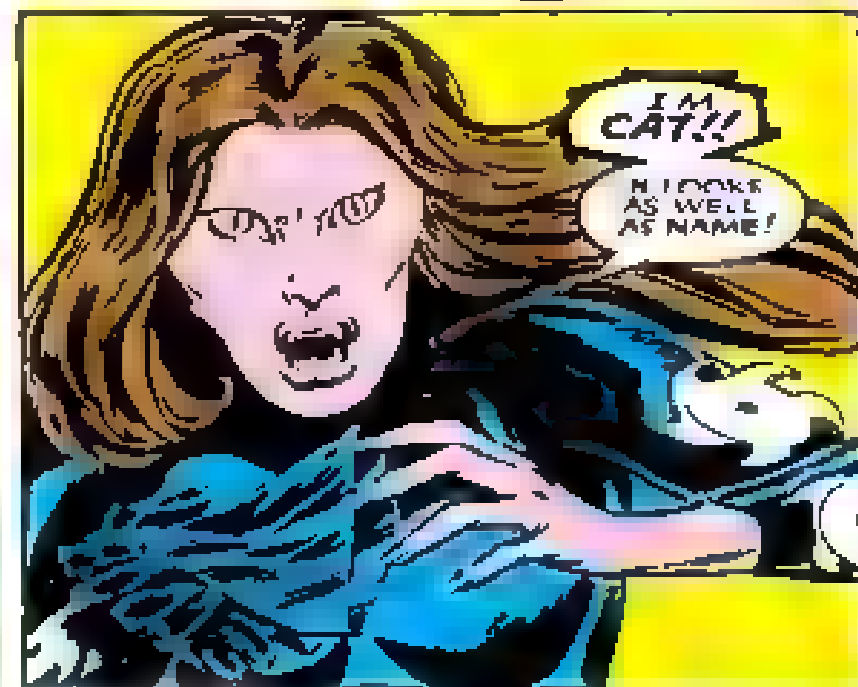
IF HE DISAPPEARED TOMORROW, YOU'D BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO TAKE HIS PLACE!

KITTEN, HOW COULD YOU BELIEVE THAT OF ME?



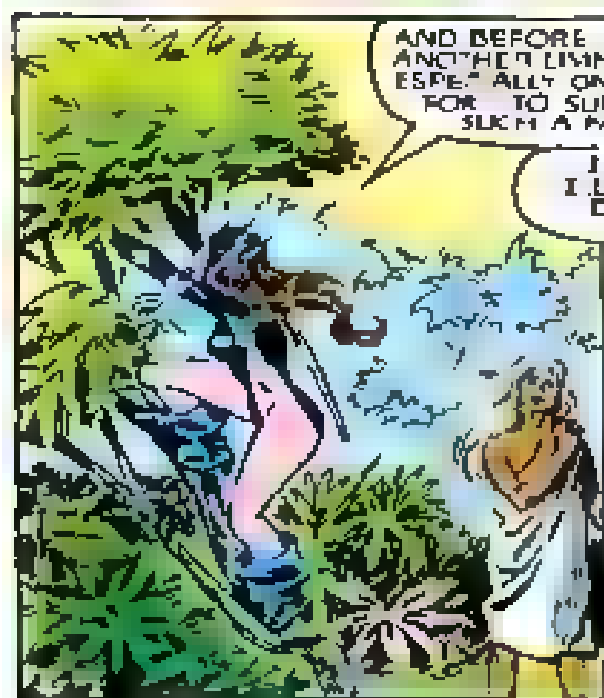
I'M NOT YOUR "KITTEN" ANYMORE, ORORO!

THANKS TO BELASCO I'M NOT EVEN HUMAN!



I'M CAT!!

I LOOK AS WELL AS NAME!



AND BEFORE I ALLOW ANOTHER LIVING SOUL-- ESPECIALLY ONE I CARE FOR-- TO SUFFER SUCH A FATE

I'LL SEE ILYANA DEAD.

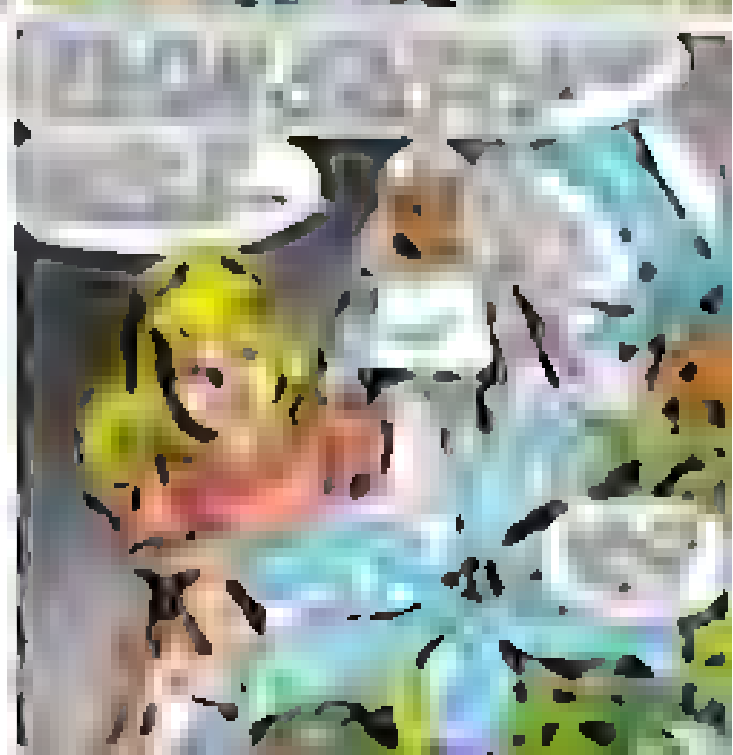
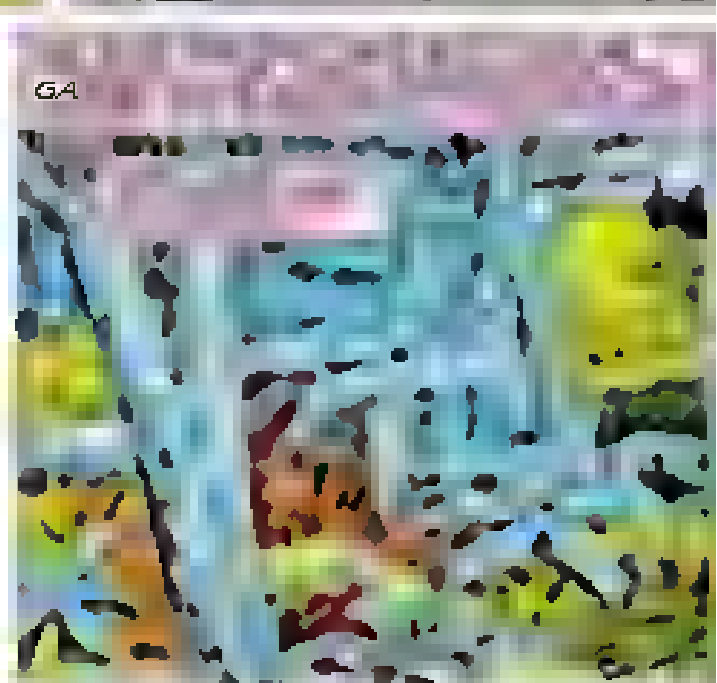


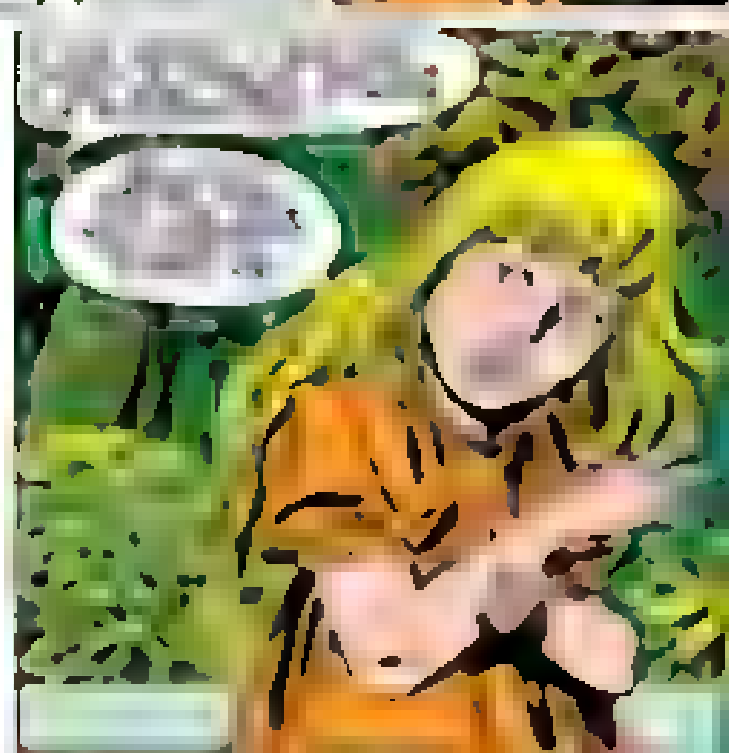
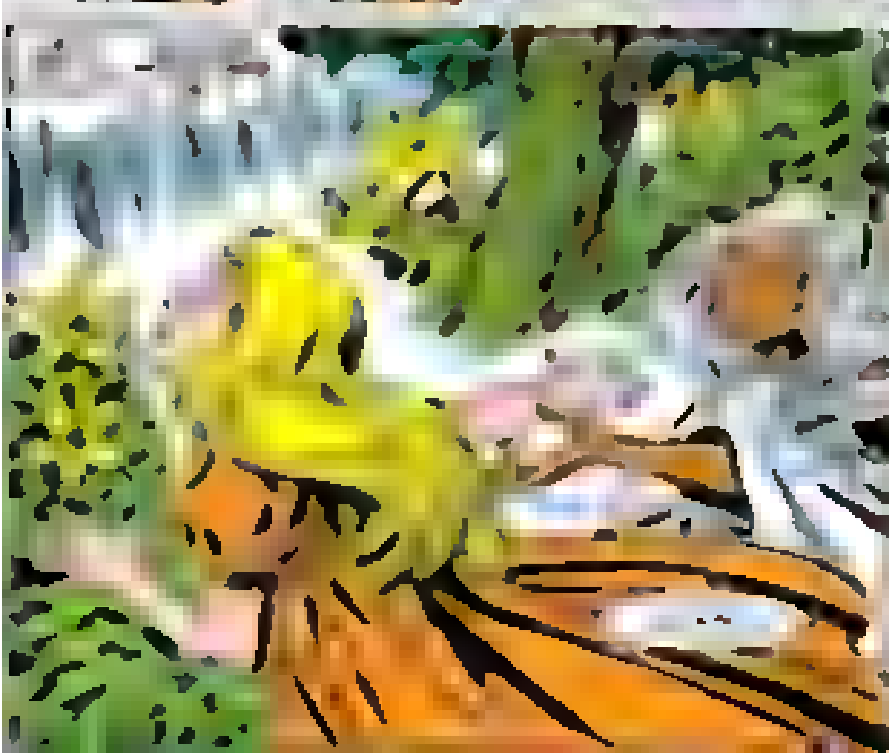
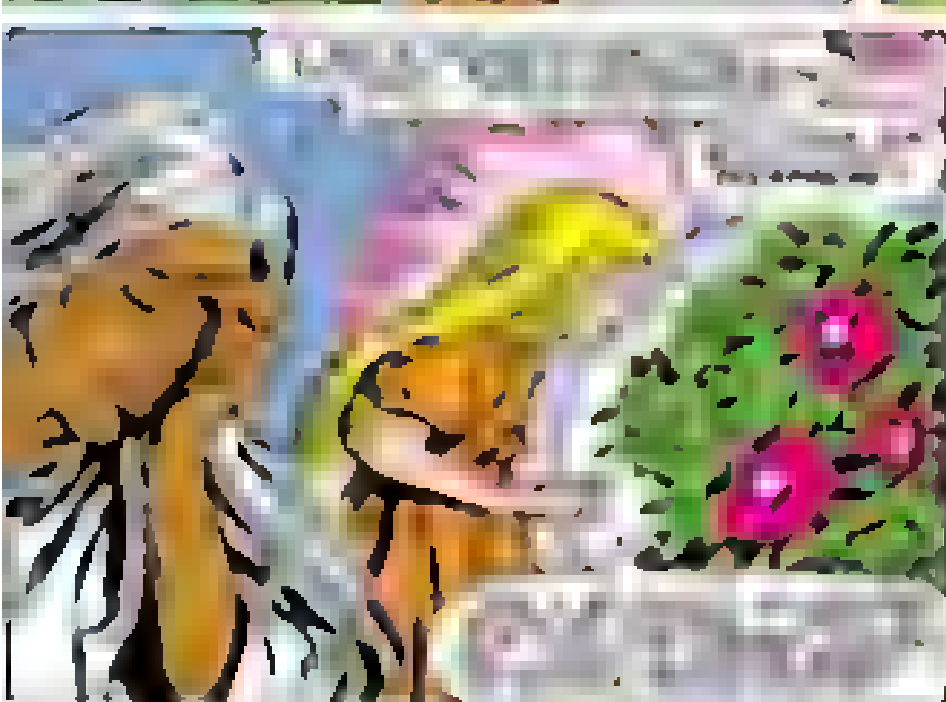
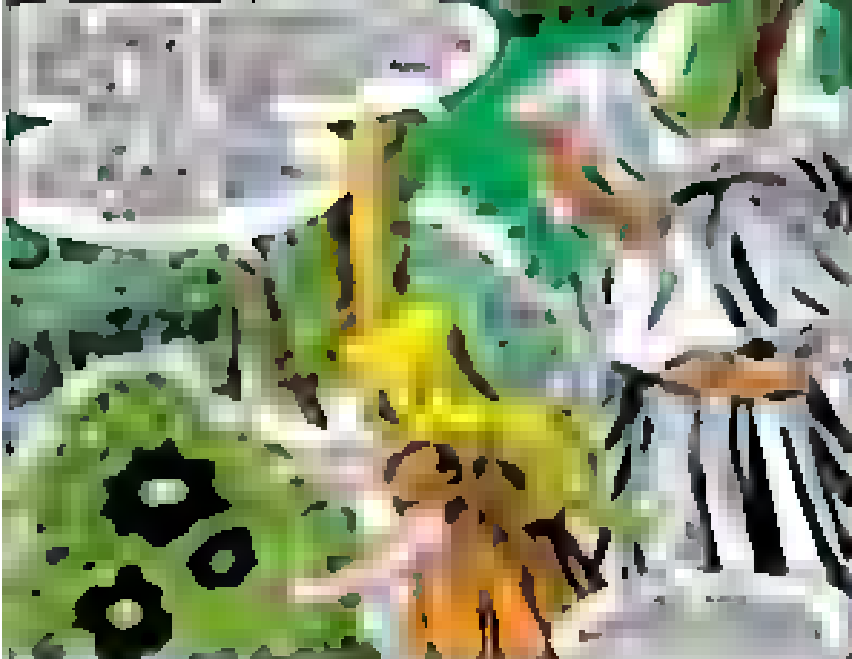
AND YOU IN HELL!



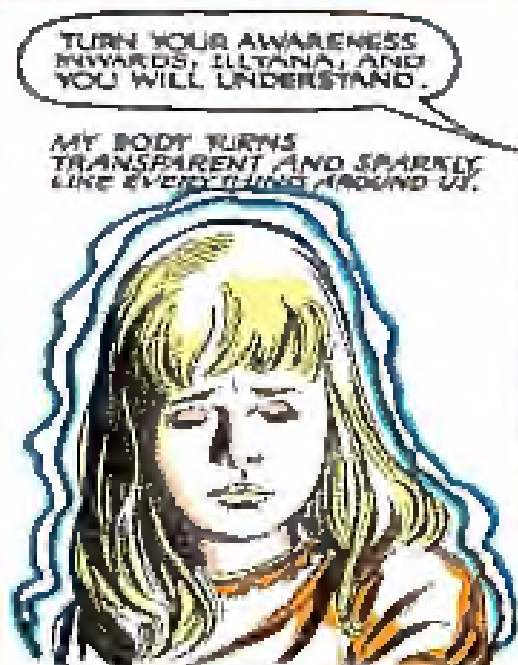


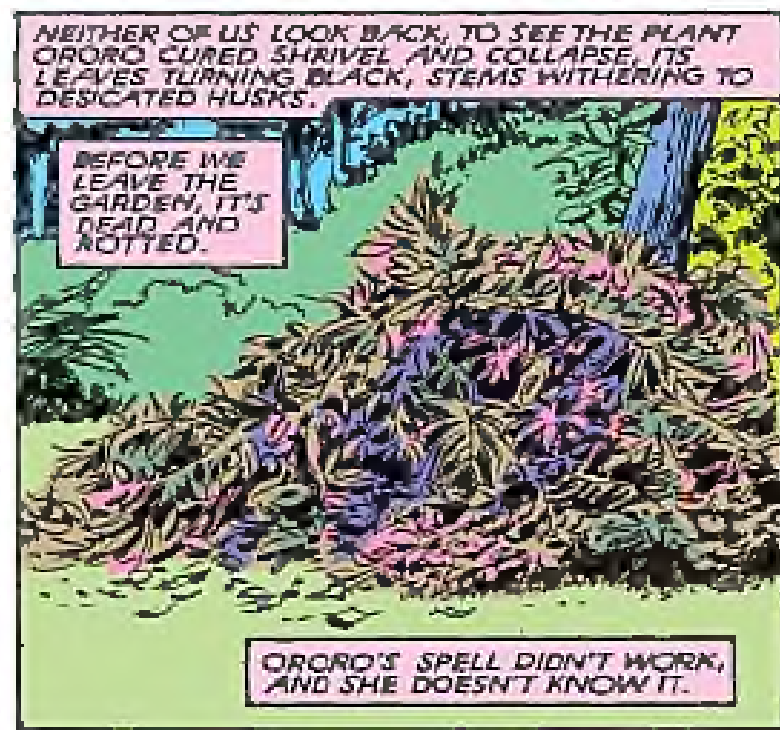
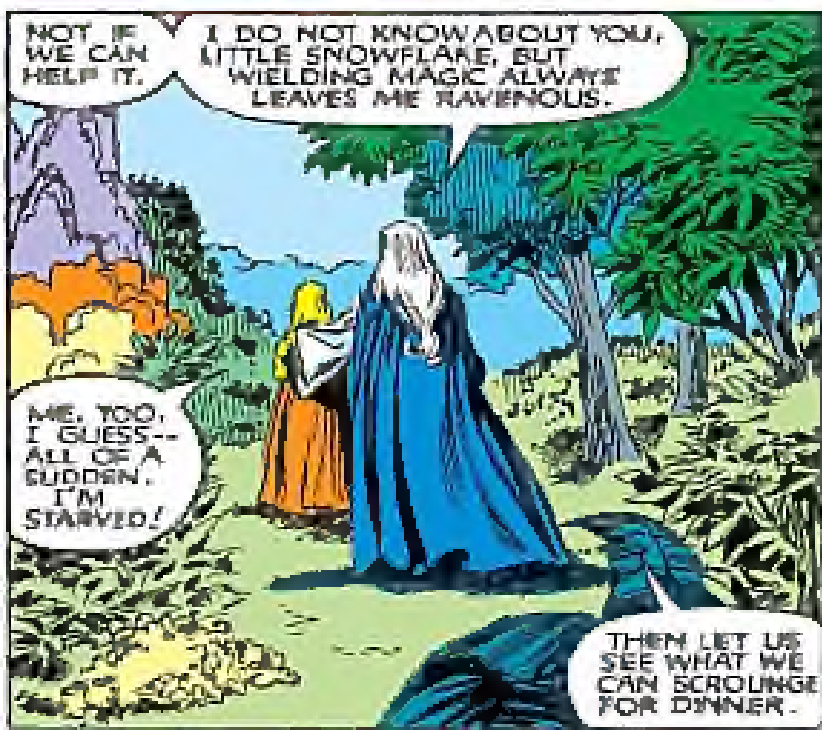
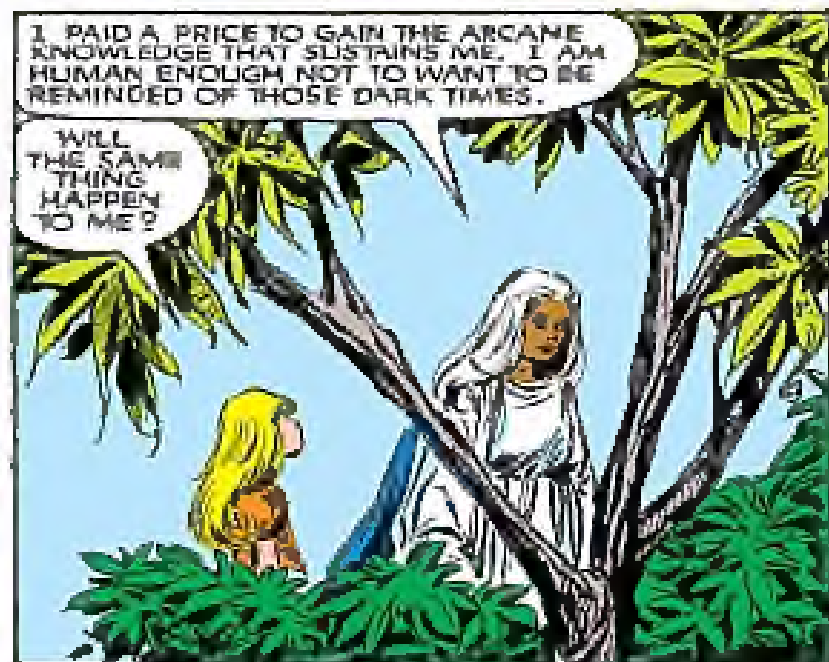
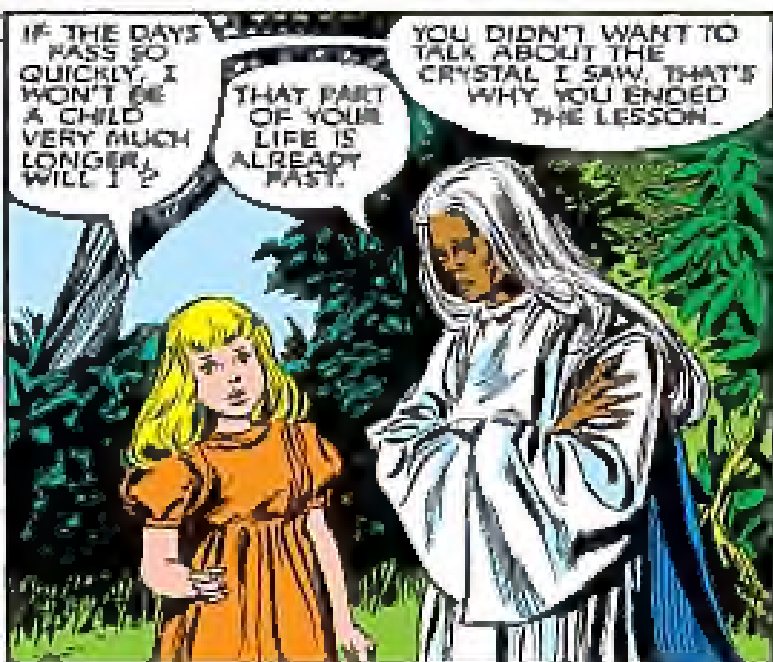












THAT NIGHT, I DREAM OF HOME-- AND WHIMPER, TO DISCOVER BELASCO'S FACE FAR MORE REAL IN MY MIND'S-EYE THAN MY BROTHER PIOTR'S.

I'VE BEEN AWAY SO LONG.



SUPPOSE I FORGOT EVERYTHING ABOUT MY LIFE ON EARTH? WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME, THEN?!



AN INTRUDER IN MY GARDEN!

NOT A DEMON, NO SERVANT OF BELASCO. ITS AURA IS ONLY PARTLY TAINTED...

...AND AS FAMILIAR TO ME AS MY OWN.



CAT?

WHERE ARE YOU, MY FRIEND? WHY DO YOU HIDE?



SHOW YOURSELF-- AARRRGKGH!E



SPLASH!



